



Executive Positions

President – Amy Briggs (Elected Unopposed)

During my two years as a PSM, I have consistently and passionately advocated for a more inclusive and sustainable Union and if elected president I would continue to work for this progress to be made. My main aims as President will be to:

- Work with the board and staff, as restrictions allow, to get our Union back up and running and re-establish it as the social hub for our student community.
- Create and apply a long-term sustainability plan that sets out a clear course for the Union to become carbon neutral by 2025.
- Implement the actions set out in our recent diversity report to ensure that the union is a safe and inclusive space for all students.
- Work with the conveners to encourage more first and second year students to get involved in the running of the Union to retain experience and ensure continuity.
- Provide a platform for clubs and societies to promote their work and engage a wider audience in these discussions.
- Work with the Assistant Honorary Secretary to ensure Board are sufficiently trained to support the wellbeing of our members, as well as engaging in cross-campus discussions to address the causes of these university-wide issues.

Honorary Secretary – Emilio Seifert (Elected Unopposed)

First and foremost, I aim to ensure the safe re-opening of the building in line with Scottish Government guidance. This will be especially important during Freshers' Week.

I will continue work to improve the Union's disciplinary system by working closely with the university and cross-campus bodies.

I will work closely with PR Committee to attract current and future first year students who have had limited interaction with the Union. During my time on board as a PSM, I created the new GUU Website and ran multiple successful social media campaigns, such as the 'Which Pint of Fun' Instagram Filter and the University Instagram takeover during Freshers' Week. The increased student engagement is necessary to showcase the benefits of the Union to a wider audience.

I aim to offer our members an unforgettable Freshers' Week, D*** F***** and Beer Bar experience (this will hopefully include HIVE, The Well and Base Bar). As President of the Adam Smith Economics Society, my knowledge of event planning, budgeting and leadership will help me to organise successful events, while co-operating with cross-campus bodies. Finally, it is vital to incorporate a cost-effective strategy, to ensure the prosperous future of the GUU.

Assistant Honorary Secretary – Vilhelm Carlsson (Elected Unopposed)

The coming Board's largest challenges will be to revitalise the Union after the damage caused by the lockdowns and to mitigate any damage still to come. To this end I will revise the 2019-



2022 Strategic Plan, making it suitable for the new circumstances. This will include creating new, viable business ideas beneficial for Members, both short and long term.

It is our duty to revitalise the Union responsibly. This year we will set up an ESG committee whose sole responsibility will be to oversee the sustainability, inclusivity and wider social impact of our activities. The Equality and Diversity Policy from 2013 will also be updated.

To promote student engagement I will push to keep prices down and ensure that positions within the Union, in particular within non-board committees, are advertised with sufficient description to incentivise applications from a wider student population.

Conveners

Games Convener – Sara Matthew (Elected Unopposed)

- I will ensure a smooth transition out of Covid-19 restrictions, working hard to get all events up and running to full capacity whilst making sure everyone adheres to the safety rules.
- More effort must be put into spreading awareness of events. When I spoke to students about their lack of attendance to events in the past, they explained that they just didn't know they were happening. The committee can make more use of things such as the Union's social media platforms to make events better known. The more people turn up, the better the atmosphere and a more enjoyable time is had.
- I propose that we host new events e.g. end of year/exams big quizzes and new drinking tournaments.
- The Union is the heart of the 'uni life' vibe and people are longing to feel that again. Last years' freshers are also yet to see the Union, and e.g. month of games in their true form. New events like the ones suggested above mean more chances for them and new freshers to experience this and get involved. I want to help the Union come back with a bang so that people can have fun at university again.

Entertainments convener – Lewis Moore (Elected Unopposed)

Being on the entertainments committee for the last two years has been an amazing opportunity even throughout the pandemic. I will continue the online events run by the entertainments committee and work on planning more events such as online open mic. I will showcase music from students at Glasgow University and use the experience I have gained from working with the entertainments committee to plan a road map for the return of entertainments to the union as soon as feasible.

Debates Convener – Joseph Hutchinson (Elected Unopposed)

My name is Joseph Hutchinson, I'm a 3rd year politics student, and have been involved in debating since I began University. I've been show debates officer for the past year, a senior speaker in debating for the past (almost) 2 years and a speaker for the Tories in parlis. I've gained so much from debating, its community and the union, and want to help in any way I can to improve it and preserve its unique culture- especially helping come back stronger after losing a year to Covid.



As convener I would like to:

- Increase size of debating community- run more events, commitment to attracting members all year round instead of just freshers/refreshers, collaboration with societies and other facets of union to attract attention.
- Reorganise and formalise how parliamentary leaders are chosen
- Establish travel policy for debating competitions
- Formalise process for how squads are chosen for international debating competitions
- Retrieve/ recreate the official standing orders for parliamentary debates
- Preserve parliamentary debating traditions (we will hopefully have a full, competitive party year next year)
- Build on and increase strength of IV performance
- (Covid laws permitting) run a 4th Charles Kennedy
- (Covid laws permitting) Bring back social element of debating with gusto

Libraries Convener (Contested Category)

Fuad Kehinde

I'm Fuad Kehinde, the current science editor at G-You Magazine. I believe that G-You differs from other student publications in its emphasis on student voice and culture. This puts the Libraries committee in a unique position to make the union a more diverse, and inclusive place. I intend to take advantage of this and to improve the magazine by:

- Organising more collaborative events with a multitude of interesting student cultural and charity societies.
- Event formats include classic events like discussions, panels, and interviews. I will also introduce new kinds of events e.g. movie showcases, outdoor charity work and interactive workshops.
- The goal of all events is to put a spotlight on the work different students do and to introduce different cultures and worldviews.
- Increasing the engagement (of both contributors and readers) that G-You gets regardless of pandemic developments. I intend to do this by:
 - Reintroducing the fun social environment for contributors that we've had in previous years with events such as magazine launch parties.
 - Continuing to strengthen the social media presence we developed this year and start new projects for our online website content.
 - Once again accepting artwork submissions from contributors.

Olivia Swarhout

Hello! My name is Olivia, I am a third year Statistics student, and I am running for the position of Libraries Convener in the upcoming March elections!

I have been involved with Libraries every year of university since first year, working as a writer, graphics artist, and this year, lead production officer. I absolutely love magazines as a form of communication and artistic expression, and having been part of magazine production



teams since high school, I have extensive experience as a leader in every step of the magazine production process - from conceptualization to editing to design to release.

Like many of you, being part of the GUU and its wonderful community have been a defining aspect of my time at university. We have faced so many challenges over the past year, but I'm committed above all to remaining an advocate for the members, committees, and staff of the Union. As we continue to find ways to navigate the challenges ahead, it would be my utmost honour to serve on the Board of Management as Libraries Convener to help an amazing institution find new ways to flourish.

Thank you very much and I hope I can count on your vote!

Present Student Members

Alex Hull (Elected Unopposed – 2 yrs)

My name is Alex Hull and I'm in my third year at Glasgow, but my first year of my sociology course and although only being officially involved with the GUU since the start of the year, I have spent a lot of my time at University in and around the union. Due to this, I would love the opportunity to help the union recover from the effects of Covid and provide a safe and accessible space for all on campus as we make our way towards life without restrictions

As PSM my main focuses would be:

- Working hard to retain and improve the presence of the union on social media: it is already the main point of contact for people to engage with the union and as the building opens and events resume it is imperative that information can be conveyed efficiently. I would also like to bring back (for when things are back to normal of course) advertising who duty board is on facebook/instagram before hive nights as especially now it is important to promote the safest space possible for students.
- Promoting and running more events that are accessible both in person and virtually such as Bob Ross and Booze or Quizzes.
- Working to swiftly encourage clubs and societies to affiliate with the union and especially trying to get more sports clubs to affiliate as I feel this is an area that has been missing previously and will strengthen cross-campus relations.

Eleanor Kirk (Elected Unopposed – 2 yrs)

As a second year student, many of my favourite memories at university have taken place within the union, I even took part in my first ever ceilidh in the debates chamber! Being a fresher's helper this year really made me appreciate the importance of the GUU's social media presence and as a PSM I would love to increase the unions online activity, perhaps through newer platforms such as Tik Tok, which would hopefully generate interest from new students who are unfamiliar with the union. Also, as a board member, next year I would like there to be an event within the Union aimed at the current first years, as they have not had a chance to properly experience the union in all its glory. I'm passionate about seeing the union get back to its usual busy self and I think it would also be really helpful to continue to create a safe environment within the Union, for instance putting new students at ease through the promotion



of the GUUs zero tolerance policy for sexual harassment. I understand that this year being on board will be tough, but I am always up for a challenge!

Sam Bracken (Elected Unopposed - 2 yrs)

Throughout my time at University, which has been rather short and feels even shorter due to the pandemic, the Union has always been an institution I would like to become more involved with. Being a helper in Freshers Week this year offered an insight into the running of the Union and has encouraged me to run for a more involved position. In first year any night in the Union was easily the highlight of the week and I was fascinated by the number of events and activities that take place in the union, making it easily my favourite place to be on campus. Thus, with such a turbulent year, I would love to take up a role within the Union as I would like to see it back to normal with the basic Union festivities, we all enjoy so much. Therefore, I believe it is a very exciting year to run for PSM in trying to achieve this, helping to get the Union back on track financially and structurally with the conditions of a (hopefully) more normal year and with the cooperation of University societies the like of GUSA, this can definitely be achieved.

Lauren Lilley (Elected Unopposed – 2 yrs)

1. Better information about procedures for keeping people safe in the union
 - a. Specifically, better information for procedures to tackle spiking such as promotion of anti-spiking mats and more information on what symptoms of spiking are
 - b. Focus on a better relationship between bouncers and students/people in Hive as well as better relationship with the creche team
 - c. A clearer way of enabling students to contact board members when they need to
2. Attempt to make the union more eco-friendly
 - a. Encourage people to reuse their cups and offer a discount on drinks if you reuse a cup
 - b. Don't put plastic straws on display, encourage people to go without them or bring their own and then only ask for them if they need them
 - c. Have more plastic free period product options in all bathrooms

I know board can seem like it's very exclusive and its only people who spend all their time in the union. Although I can't deny I spend most of my time there, I also understand what it's like for people who don't have a strong allegiance to a society or any part of the union and want to make these views heard too.

Yasmin Baker Marshall (Elected Unopposed – 2 yrs)

For my time on board, I would mainly wish to focus my efforts towards these areas of life at the union, particularly focusing on an increased emphasis on safety within the union.

To do this, I would wish to emphasise:

- More publicity on how you can ask for help (obviously or surreptitiously)
- More security cameras on the entrances/exits of the union as a means of easing tracking people in the events of a serious situation being reported
- Improve staff/student (e.g. bouncers and crèche staff) relationships to encourage better reporting to help make students feel safe at all times at the union



As someone who didn't spend my entire life at the union during first year but instead enjoyed visiting regularly, I feel that it is important that systems of help and inclusivity are better publicised for those who don't know the ins and outs of how the union works. During my time as a board member, I would want to represent the voice of those not as fully invested in the union to help make their time visiting as enjoyable as possible and to also encourage them to return to the union for frequently.

Duncan Armstrong Martin – (Elected Unopposed – 1 yr)

As Present Student Member I pledge to do my utmost in assisting the smooth re-opening of the Glasgow University Union. Throughout this global pandemic I have been working with the board of management as a PSM in every way required of me, including the running of fresher's week in its limited capacity and the management of the building's services throughout this tumultuous period. Given my involvement over the last year, I believe that the consistency provided in allowing me to continue on the board of management would be of interest to the Union community. My manifesto pledges from last year were unfortunately unable to materialise due to the pandemic but I am confident that this year will be different. My main additional point that I would like to introduce is a closer tie between club sport and the GUU. It was discussed last year before COVID and I am confident that, if re-elected, I will be able to offer an invaluable insight into the workings of club sport and how to make the sponsorship, affiliation and association packages more understandable and accessible to all sports clubs.